MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether there was any undertaking on the part of this Government as to the date of completion of the ærodrome with the Government of India or the Government of Cochin?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Government are participating in the air services. It is part of the Government's own function.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether there was a stipulation as to the date regarding the completion of the work?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. As part of the negotiations that took place between the three Governments and the Tata Company, it was decided that the air service should be opened from the 1st October.

Trivandrum Aerodrome.

5. *MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the estimated amount and the expenditure so far of the Trivandrum Aerodrome; and

(*b*) how far the work has progressed?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: (*a*) 1. Approximately Rs. 12 lakhs excluding land acquisition charges.

2. Rs. 4·56 lakhs.

(*b*) One runway has been completely metalled. Another runway has been metalled for half its length and a third has been metalled for ¼ of its length.

Construction of the Aerodrome at Trivandrum.

6. *MR. CHAZHIKKATTU JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Thodupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount of the first estimate for the construction of the Aerodrome at Trivandrum; and

(*b*) the expenditure incurred till the 15th of Meenom 1121?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN (*a*) Rs. 6 lakhs for a small aerodrome.

(*b*) Rs. 95,612.

MR. CHAZHIKKATTU JOSEPH: ഏറോഡ്രോം പണിയുന്നതിലേക്ക് ഫസ്റ്റ് എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റ് തുകയും കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാതിരുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്ക് ഇതിലേക്കുള്ള പണം എവിടെനിന്ന് എടുക്കുവാനാണ് ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് പറയാമോ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Post-war reconstruction.

Aerodrome at Trivandrum.

7. *MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the estimated cost of the construction of the Aerodrome at Trivandrum; and

(*b*) the time within which the work is to be completed?

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DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* Rs. 12 lakhs approximately.

(b) In another five months.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know how many coolies have been employed in this work?

DEWAN BAHADUR L VENKATAKRISHNAN: It has varied from anything between 700 to 2,000.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know whether this is done on a contractual basis or departmentally?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: They are on petty contracts. There are large numbers of contractors for the work.

Aerodrome.

8. ❋ MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI *(Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad)*: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of expenditure up to 30-10-1121 on the construction of Aerodrome at Trivandrum;

(b) the probable date on which the works connected with the Aerodrome are expected to be completed; and

(c) the estimated cost of the whole work?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* 4·54 lakhs.

(b) End of Vrischigom 1122 M. E.

(c) Rs. 12 lakhs approximately.

Aerodrome at Trivandrum.

9 ❋ MR. P. O. THOMAS: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) when the Aerodrome construction at Trivandrum commenced;

(b) what more time is required for the completion of the same;

(c) whether any contractor is entrusted with any work in respect of the Aerodrome; and

(d) if so, who that contractor is?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* November 1945.

(b) About 5 months.

(c) and *(d)* Yes. A number of contractors are entrusted with the work such as supply and conveyance of materials, spreading and consolidation of materials, laying concrete etc.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: Sir, the answer to part *(d)* of the question is: "Yes. A number of contractors are entrusted with the work such as supply and conveyance of materials, spreading and consolidation of materials, laying concrete, etc." I wanted to know who the contractors were.

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: There was a large number. It was not thought worth while compiling a long list.

SAHIB BAHADUR K. A. MOHAMED *(Quilon* cum *Kottarakara)*: What was the difficulty for enlisting new labourers?

DEWAN BAHADUR L VENKATAKRISHNAN: First of all, we took all the army labourers when they were being disbanded. They worked on it about three weeks and suddenly they disappeared. We did not

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